2017 Intermediate Sequoyah Masterlist Smorgasbord

*The Crossover*
By Kwame Alexander

**Citation:**

**Annotation:** In a rhythmic, rapping verse novel, middle school basketball phenom Josh Bell and his equally talented twin brother Jordan deal with struggles on and off the court.

**Booktalk:** “Filthy McNasty/ is a MYTHical MANchild/ Of rather dubious distinction/ Always AGITATING/ COMBINATING/ and ELEVATING his game”. Josh Bell’s talents on the basketball court have earned him the name Filthy McNasty. “Folks call me that/ ’cause my game’s acclaimed,/ so downright dirty, it’ll put you to shame,” he proclaims. Josh’s twin brother Jordan is equally talented on the court, and the two eighth graders are cheered on by their loving parents. However, jealousy, girls, and a bad temper are getting in the way of Josh’s success on the court. Now, Josh and Jordan’s dad is facing an opponent of his own, and the twins soon realize that their biggest challenges have nothing to do with basketball. How will Josh confront these challenges? Find out in the *Crossover*, a verse novel by Kwame Alexander.

**Reviews:**
- *Booklist*, 03/15/14
- *Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books* starred, 02/01/14
- *Christian Library Journal*, 09/01/15
- *Horn Book Guide*, 10/01/14
- *Horn Book Magazine*, 05/01/14
- *Kirkus Reviews* starred, 01/15/14
- *Library Media Connection* starred, 08/01/14
- *New York Times*, 05/11/14
- *Publishers Weekly* starred, 01/20/14
- *School Library Journal* starred, 03/01/14
- *Teacher Librarian*, 04/01/15
- *Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA)* starred, 08/01/14

**Awards or Honors:**
- Newbery Medal, 2015
- Coretta Scott King Author Honor, 2015

**Author Website:**
Related Books:

*Booked* by Kwame Alexander (coming April 2016)
*Sasquatch in the Paint* by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar
*Planet Middle School* by Nikki Grimes

Like-Try-Why:

If you like *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander, try *Booked*, also by Kwame Alexander. Both books are novels written in verse with a middle-school athlete as the protagonist.

If you like *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander, try *Sasquatch in the Paint* by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. Both books will appeal to basketball fans and are accessible books for all levels of middle school readers.

If you like *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander, try *Planet Middle School* by Nikki Grimes. Both books feature poems about middle school basketball players who are facing life’s challenges.
The Night Gardener
By Jonathan Auxier

Citation:

Annotation: Molly and Kip are Irish servants who move to an old English Manor house that is hauntingly connected to a tree that grows in the front yard.

Booktalk: What would you do if you thought someone was coming in to your house and controlling your actions? What if that someone was a gardener with a magic tree? Molly and Kip are Irish immigrants who are looking for work when they come to the Windsor House. All is not well in the house, but Molly is determined to find out what is going on with the house and the tree, to protect her brother from the truth of their parents, and to find her place in the world through her stories.

Reviews:
- School Library Journal, starred 04/01/14
- Kirkus Reviews, starred 05/01/14
- Booklist 06/01/14
- VOYA, starred 04/01/14

Awards or Honors:
- ALA Notable Children's Books - Older Readers Category: 2015
- Canadian Library Association Book of the Year for Children Award
- Forest of Reading Awards (Ontario Library Association): Silver Birch Fiction Award
- International Reading Association Children's Book Award: Intermediate Fiction (post-2001 winners)
- Monica Hughes Award for Science Fiction and Fantasy
- TD Canadian Children's Literature Award
- Westchester Fiction Award (California)

Author Website:
http://www.thescop.com/

Like – Try – Why:
If you like *Doll Bones* by Holly Black, try *The Night Gardener* by Jonathan Auxier. Each of these books has a creepy element of mystery with children as the heroes of the story.

If you like *Heap House* by Edward Carey, try *The Night Gardener* by Jonathan Auxier. Both books are set in creepy almost scary mansions and involve sinister objects that try to control the characters.

If you like *Juniper Berry* by M.P. Kozlowsky, try *The Night Gardener* by Jonathan Auxier. Both books are scary and have magical trees that move the adventures into harrowing and touching stories.
El Deafo
by Cece Bell

Citation:

Annotation: After a bout with meningitis as a child that left her deaf, author Cece Bell tells the story of her childhood in the graphic memoir, and also how her superhero alter ego, named El Deafo, became her refuge from uncomfortable or embarrassing situations related to her deafness.

Booktalk: Have you ever been embarrassed--like, red-faced, wish-the-earth-would-swallow-you-up embarrassed? Have you ever fantasized about flying away from situations that make you uncomfortable? Then you will totally get where the hero of El Deafo is coming from. When the author was very young, she was very sick. The illness affected her hearing, forcing her to get hearing aids. Starting school is hard enough, but starting school with wires poking out of your ears and a speaker on a string is even harder. Out of the discomfort and embarrassment of her early school days, Cece invented El Deafo, her cape-wearing, superhero powered alter ego. El Deafo is fearless. She’s not afraid to stand up to people who want to treat Cece like a baby. El Deafo is funny, finding ways to make herself laugh when the situation gets too serious. El Deafo can say all the things that Cece can’t, like “You’re not a very good friend” and “I miss you.”

What I love most about El Deafo is that this is not just a book about a girl who’s deaf. This is a book about how to be a good friend. It’s a book about learning to find your voice in tough situations. It’s a book about celebrating the things that make you different, and finding people who appreciate that.

This is a quick, funny, poignant graphic novel about growing up and finding yourself, and readers of any gender or age will love getting to know both Cece and El Deafo.

Reviews:
- Kirkus Reviews, September 2, 2014
- School Library Journal, August 21, 2014
- Publisher’s Weekly, July 7, 2014

Awards:
- 2015 Newbery Honor Recipient
- 2015 Eisner Award for Best Publication for Kids (Ages 8-12)

Author Website:
https://cecebellel.wordpress.com/
Related Books:

*Drama* by Raina Telgemeier
*Princeless: Save Yourself* by Jeremy Whitley and M Goodwin
*Lumberjanes Volume 1* by Noelle Stevenson and Brooke A. Allen

**Like-Try-Why**

If you liked *Drama* by Raina Telgemeier, try *El Deafo!* A compelling, relatable story told in graphic form featuring real characters and a quick pace.

If you liked *Addy on the Inside* by James Howe try *El Deafo!* Strong female characters working through real-life problems are a fascinating read!

If you liked *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio, try *El Deafo!* Characters with physical disabilities work to find their own group of people who accept them for who they are.
Prisoner of Night and Fog
By Anne Blankman

Citation:

Annotation: Gretchen Müller is a favored member of rising Nazi leader Adolf Hitler who always assures her family’s protection and basic needs until Gretchen meets a reporter and begins to question the true nature of her Uncle Dolf.

Booktalk: Meet Gretchen Müller, favorite of the Nazis after her father was killed protecting Adolf Hitler. They make sure that the Müller family is always protected and has their needs met. Gretchen has always seen Hitler as her kind, generous Uncle Dolf. However, one day, a Jewish reporter named Daniel Cohen begins to investigate the circumstances of Mr. Müller’s death and forces Gretchen to reconsider everything she believes about Uncle Dolf and the Nazis.

Reviews:
- School Library Journal (April 2014)
- Publishers Weekly Starred (February 2014)
- Kirkus Reviews (March 2014)
- Horn Book (Fall 2014)
- Booklist (April 2014)

Awards or Honors:
- Sydney Taylor Notable Book by the Association of Jewish Libraries
- "Flying Start" by Publishers Weekly

Author Website:
www.anneblankman.com

Related Books:
Conspiracy of Blood and Smoke by Anne Blankman
Code Name Verity by Elizabeth Wein
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys

Like-Try-Why:
If you like Prisoner of Night and Fog, try Conspiracy of Blood and Smoke both by Anne Blankman. Conspiracy of Blood and Smoke continues the story of Gretchen and Daniel.
If you like *Prisoner of Night and Fog* by Anne Blankman, try *Code Name Verity* by Elizabeth Wein. Both are intense, adventurous historical fiction based around WWII, but not focused on the Holocaust.

If you like *Prisoner of Night and Fog* by Anne Blankman, try *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys. Both tell the story of historical events around WWII,
**Girl on a Wire**
By Gwenda Bond

**Citation:**

**Annotation:** Jules and her Amazing Maroni family of tightrope walkers join the Cirque American at the risk of confronting their dreaded enemies, the Flying Garcia family, and items that are believed to bring bad luck and possibly causing Jules to fall to her death.

**Booktalk:** Imagine your family has hated another family for decades, but now you must face your fear and your enemies. Jules Maroni desperately wants to be a famous tightrope walker and follow in her father’s footsteps, but her family won’t allow it. Finances and a lucrative offer force the Amazing Maronis to join the Cirque American and be thrust into the spotlight alongside the Flying Garcias. Jules, her red tutu, and her courage rise in fame until bad luck objects are discovered amongst the costumes of her family. Will Jules be the first Maroni to fall from the tightrope?

**Reviews:**
- Publishers Weekly (August 2014)
- School Library Journal (July 2014)
- VOYA (October 2014)
- Booklist (August 2014)
- Kirkus (August 2014)

**Awards or Honors:**
- South Carolina Junior Book Award Nominee

**Author Website:**
[www.gwendabond.com](http://www.gwendabond.com)

**Related Books:**
*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
*The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern
*Girl in the Shadows* by Gwenda Bond

**Like-Try-Why:**
If you like *The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern, try *Girl on a Wire* by Gwenda Bond. Both books are set in a circus environment with an underlying theme of competition.
If you like *Girl on a Wire* by Gwenda Bond, try *The Stratford Zoo Midnight Revue Presents Romeo and Juliet* by Ian Lendler to enjoy more dueling enemy families.

If you like *Girl on a Wire* by Gwenda Bond, try *Girl in the Shadows* also by Gwenda Bond. Both are revenge-filled circus books with different characters and settings, but written by the same author.
Annotation: Thirteen year old Tyson’s Grandpa Gene has been put into a nursing home, just days before their first elk hunting trip together, and just moments after he was told it would be canceled anyway due to the series of Grizzly Bear attacks in the area. With Tyson’s best friend Bright quickly drifting into a new crowd, this trip was the only thing keeping his spirits up, and Tyson was not about to just give it up.

Book Talk:
Tyson’s social life is starting to diminish. His best friend, Bright, would rather hang out with a new crowd, and starts to deny the interest they share (Including a love for Taylor Swift). Tyson is socially awkward, and he’s always saying the wrong things in front of the girl of his dreams. The only thing Tyson is looking forward to is his first elk hunting trip with his Grandpa Gene. But when a series of bear attacks from the deadly grizzle Sandy take place, and Gene’s health takes a turn for the worst, their trip is canceled. Will Tyson and Gene find a way to take their trip? Will Bright confess his love for Taylor Swift? And will there be bears?

Reviews:
❖ Booklist, 03/15/14
❖ Horn Book Guide, 03/10/14
❖ Kirkus Reviews, 04/01/14
❖ School Library Journal, 04/01/14

Awards or Honors:
❖ Dorothy Canfield Fisher Children’s Book Award Nominee, 2016

Author Website:

Related Books:
Word Nerd by Susin Nielsen-Fernlund
Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pies by Jordan Sonnenblick
The Graduation of Jake Moon by Barbara Park
Like-Try-Why:
If you like *There Will Be Bears* by Ryan Gebhart, try *Word Nerd* by Susin Nielsen-Fernlund. Both books have likeable male characters who are funny awkward misfits.

If you like *There Will Be Bears* by Ryan Gebhart, try *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick. Both books focus on the ever-changing relationships between family and friends, told by likable teenage boys.

If you like *There Will Be Bears* by Ryan Gebhart, try *The Graduation of Jake Moon* by Barbara Park. Both books are told from a teenage boy's point of view and are at times emotionally intense and serious.
Treaties, Trenches, Mud and Blood
By Nathan Hale

Citation:
124 pg. (grades 3-7)

Annotation: Witty American revolutionary spy Nathan Hale explains World War I to his would be executioners in this vivid graphic novel. Portraying each country as an animal and breaking down complicated alliances, Hale explains the beginnings of modern warfare and the bloody “War to End All Wars” with humor and frankness.

Booktalk: World War One was to be “The War to End All Wars”. American Revolutionary Spy Nathan Hale is back to explain more world history to his would-be executioners in this graphic novel explanation of one of the most complicated conflicts in world history. Hale explains the conflict and depicts countries as the animal that best represents them all while explaining warfare, alliances and battles that raged across Europe 1914-1918. An engrossing tale told that breaks down a complicated world event with easily accessible words and the occasional joke, Treaties, Trenches, Mud and Blood is an excellent read for everyone.

Reviews:
- Booklist, 05/15/14
- Kirkus Reviews, 05/01/14
- School Library Journal, 06/01/14
- Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA), 08/01/14

Awards and Honors:
- Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards Nominee: Best Reality Based Work
- North Dakota Flicker Tale Nonfiction Book Award Master List
- Texas Graphic Novel Reading List
- YALSA Great Graphic Novels for Teens

Author Website:
http://hazardoustales.blogspot.com/
http://spacestationnathan.blogspot.com/

Like-Try-Why
Like Treaties, Trenches, Mud and Blood? Try Stubby the War Dog by Ann Bausum Why? An intriguing true story about a WWI four legged mascot.
Like *Treaties, Trenches, Mud and Blood*? Try *Alamo All-Stars* by Nathan Hale. Why? The next in the Nathan Hale’s Hazardous Tales series covering another event in history.

Like *Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans* by Don Brown? Try *Treaties, Trenches, Mud and Blood* by Nathan Hale. Why? Both books are presented in graphic novel format and cover complicated events in history with easy to understand explanations.
The Secret Hum of a Daisy
By Tracy Holczer

Citation:

Annotation: After the accidental death of her mother, 12 year old Grace must learn to trust the estranged grandmother she’s never met.

Booktalk: Twelve year old Grace and her artist mother have always lived a nomadic life, never staying long anywhere. Just when Grace thinks they have found a permanent home with Mrs. Greene and her daughter, Lacey, her mother announces that they are moving on yet again. That evening, after an angry argument with Grace, her mother is accidentally killed and Grace is sent to live with her only living relative, her grandmother. Grace has been told little about her grandmother and only knows what her mother has let slip to her over the years. Hoping to be reunited with Mrs. Green and Lacey, Grace holds her grandmother at arm’s length, becoming uncooperative and surly. In turn, her grandmother struggles with her own guilt and sorrow over the loss of her daughter. With the help of some neighbor kids, a well-meaning Sheriff, and a small town of people who watched her mother grow up, Grace slowly begins to see what “home” really means and that she can finally put down the roots she has always craved.

Reviews:
● Kirkus 4/15/2014
● School Library Journal 5/6/14
● Publisher’s Weekly 2/24/2014

Awards or Honors:
● 2014 Indies Introduce New Voice Summer/Fall
● 2014 Indie Next Summer

Author Website:
http://www.tracyholczer.com

Related Books:
Nest by Esther Ehrlick
Rain Reign by Ann Martin
The End or Something Like it by Ann Dee Ellis
The Chapel Wars by Lindsey Leavitt

Like - Try - Why:
Like *The Summer of Letting Go* by Gae Polisner?
Try *The Secret Hum of a Daisy* by Tracy Holczer!
Why - Francesa has much soul-searching to do as she copes with the death of her little brother, the troubled relationship of her parents with each other and with her, and the guilt that she should have prevented it all. Like Grace, she eventually finds comfort from strangers she befriends.

Like *The Paper Cowboy* by Kristin Levine?
Try *The Secret Hum of a Daisy* by Tracy Holczer!
Why Tommy struggles to come to terms with his guilt that beloved his sister is seriously injured doing one of his chores, his mother’s mental instability, and the realization that grown-ups make mistakes. As with Grace, Tommy is helped by caring neighbors and friends outside of his family.

Like *Hope is a Ferris Wheel* by Robin Herrera?
Try *The Secret Hum of a Daisy* by Tracy Holczer!
Why Star has just moved to a new town. She finds it hard to make friends, her older sister has drastically changed and she continues to mourn for a father who never contacts her. As the story progresses, Star learns that sometimes adults tell lies with the best intentions, that changes her entire world and the way she sees herself.
Stitching Snow
By R.C. Lewis

Citation:

Annotation: In this futuristic retelling of Snow White, Essie lives on the mining planet, Thanda working on robots and drones "stitching" their code. When a shuttle crash lands on the planet Essie is kidnapped by the pilot Dane and forced into the war she was hiding from.

Booktalk: Imagine Snow White with 7 bumbling mining drones: Dimwit, Ticktock, Clank and Clunk, Zippy, Whirligig, and Cusser. Yes, Cusser. Essie works on these drones daily, "stitching" their code to keep them running for the frozen mining planet of Thanda where she has been hiding for 8 years. When Candaran Dane's shuttle crashes on the planet, she helps him fix the shuttle even cage fighting for some needed parts but he kidnaps her in hopes that he can use her as leverage in an ongoing war between planets. As Essie learns more about what's really going on with her home-planet, Windsong, she must make an important decision to either save herself or save the galaxy.

Reviews:
- Booklist, 09/15/14
- Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, 12/01/14
- Horn Book Guide, 04/01/15
- Kirkus Reviews, 09/01/14
- Library Media Connection, 05/01/15
- Publishers Weekly Annex, 10/20/14
- School Library Journal, 08/01/14
- Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA), 12/01/14

Like-Try-Why:
If you like Cinder by Marissa Meyer, try Stitching Snow by R.C. Lewis. Both books are futuristic fairytale retellings where the princesses are in hiding and work with machines. They both feature robot sidekicks as well!

If you like Graceling by Kristin Cashore, try Stitching Snow by R.C. Lewis. Both books feature strong female characters who aren't afraid to get in a fight.

If you like Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard, try Stitching Snow by R.C. Lewis. Both books feature a world in turmoil, missing princesses, and supernatural abilities.
Love and Other Foreign Words
By Erin McCahan

Citation:

Annotation: Gifted Josie has a fascination for languages but struggles to understand the meaning of love when her favorite sister brings home an obnoxious fiance, and when her own love life is so confusing.

Booktalk: Josie is a genius who studies languages in her college classes, which she takes while still in high school, but she often struggles to understand other people and whether they mean what they say. Josie begins the question to meaning of love when her favorite sister, Kate, becomes engaged to a man Josie finds really annoying. The battles begin between the two sisters. Josie “accidentally” dumps spaghetti into Geoff’s lap, and Kate blackmails Josie with stolen journal pages. Josie tries to convince Kate that Geoff is all wrong for her and Kate tries to convince Josie to come around to her way of thinking. Then Josie’s own love life gets really complicated. You will fall in love with quirky Josie and this laugh-out-loud book.

Reviews:
- ALA Booklist 5/15/14
- Horn Book 8/1/14
- Publishers Weekly* 3/10/14
- School Library Journal 4/1/14

Awards and Honors:
- Optioned by Warner Bros.
- Junior Library Guild selection
- Top Ten Romance Fiction for Youth, Booklist

Author website:
http://www.erinmccahan.com/

Twitter: @ErinMcCahan

Other books by this author:
I Now Pronounce You Someone Else
Like - Try - Why:
Like-- *Love and Other Foreign Words*
Try-- *The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight* by Jennifer E. Smith
Why--Both of these books are about the improbability of finding love.

Like-- *Since You’ve Been Gone*
Try-- *Love and Other Foreign Words*
Why-- Both of these books are about friendship and relationships

Like-- *Love and Other Foreign Words*
Try-- *To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before*
Why-- The characters in both of these books are confused about the boys they like.
Gracefully Grayson
By Ami Polonsky

Citation: Polonsky, Ami. Gracefully Grayson. Los Angeles: Hyperion, 2014. 243 p. (Grades 6 & up)

Annotation: Grayson Sender is twelve-years-old and living with a big secret -- She knows she's a girl but everyone else knows her as a boy. When she is chosen to play Persephone in the school play she learns what it means to be yourself when the odds are stacked against you.

Booktalk: Grayson Sender has a secret. No one would understand that "he" is really a girl on the inside. She draws secret princesses in the margin of her notebook and keeps to herself until the new girl at school befriends her. At home, she is misunderstood by her aunt, uncle, and cousin after her parents were killed in a car crash. Grayson slowly develops as her true self throughout the book but will others accept her?

Reviews:
- Booklist, 10/15/14
- Horn Book Guide, 04/01/15
- Horn Book Magazine, 11/01/14
- Kirkus Reviews, 10/01/14
- Library Media Connection, 03/01/15
- Publishers Weekly, 09/29/14
- School Library Journal, 09/01/14
- Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA), 12/01/14

Awards or Honors:

Like-Try-Why:
If you like George by Alex Gino, try Gracefully Grayson by Ami Polonsky. Both feature transgender pre-teens who want to play female leads in their school plays.

If you like Wonder by R.J. Palacio, try Gracefully Grayson by Ami Polonsky. Both deal with bullies and struggling to be seen for who you are inside when people only see the outside.

If you like Drama by Raina Telgemeier, try Gracefully Grayson by Ami Polonsky. Both center on the big school play and acceptance.
Jackaby
by William Ritter

Citation:

Annotation: After leaving her family behind in search of adventure, young Abigail Rook collides with R. Jackaby, a brilliant detective focused on the world of the supernatural, and she becomes his assistant as they investigate a series of mysterious murders.

Booktalk: One of the best ways to describe this book is this: Imagine if the TV shows of Sherlock and Doctor Who had a baby that was a book. This would be that book. Our story begins with Abigail Rook, who has recently traveled from England via the Ukraine. She is escaping her family, who want her to fit into the exceedingly boring life they have planned for her. But Abigail wants adventure. She wants to dig with archaeologists and visit foreign countries. As she arrives on the shores of New England in 1892, she literally collides with R.F. Jackaby, who deduces not only where she is from, but where she has been, what kind of ship she traveled on and what she’s eaten. But it’s not because he is a “deductionist” as Abigail first believes, but because he has the Sight. He can see the supernatural creatures she has encountered along her way, and the traces they have left behind. Intrigued by his claims of the fantastical, Abigail accepts a position as his investigative assistant. Being a bit more level headed, and much more observant of the everyday, Abigail proves to be an invaluable help to Jackaby. Jackaby and Abigail are soon on the trail of a series of incredible murders. But lurking behind the seeming calm of the town is a host of forces who don’t want them to look too closely at what exactly is happening.

This is a fantastic book for anyone who loves a good mystery, doesn’t mind an exploding frog or two, the possibility of a werewolf, and a fantastical journey through an exciting world where reason and magic live side by side.

Reviews:
- Publisher’s Weekly, June 30, 2014
- School Library Journal, September 30, 2014
- Kirkus Reviews, September 16, 2014

Awards:
- A Top Ten Fall 2014 Kids’ Indie Next List Pick
- A Junior Library Guild Selection
- A 2014 Kirkus Review Best Book for Young Adults
- A 2015 YALSA Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults Title
- A 2015 Pacific Northwest Book Award Winner
Author Website:
https://rwillritter.wordpress.com/

Related Books:
The Diviners by Libba Bray
The Ruby in the Smoke by Philip Pullman
Etiquette and Espionage by Gail Carriger

Like--Try--Why
If you liked The Raven Boys try Jackaby! A world of magic lurks just out of view in both stories, and a great female narrator and a strong story make these two books a great pair!

If you liked Dollbones try Jackaby! A strong sense of the supernatural exists in both books, but Jackaby also plunges you into an exciting mystery and adventure!

If you liked The Name of the Star try Jackaby! A delicious mystery set in an atmospheric location with strong characters will make these books a natural choice!
**Saving Lucas Biggs**  
By Marisa De los Santos and David Teague

**Citation:**  
(Grades 5-8).

**Annotation:** Margaret has a secret gift with potentially terrible consequences that she pledges to never use. She can time travel. But when Margaret’s innocent father is sentenced to death by the corrupt Judge Biggs, Margaret decides to defy her pledge and use her gift to try to prevent Judge Biggs from becoming evil.

**Booktalk:** Teenager Margaret and her family have a special ability that they vow never to use. They can time travel. Margaret’s father warns her that the consequences of using this ability are too severe to ever try. However, Margaret’s father became a whistleblower against a big business, and now he has been convicted of arson and murder, crimes he did not commit. One of the men responsible for her father’s injustice is the evil and corrupt Judge Biggs. Now Margaret, with the help of her best friend Charlie and his Grandpa Joshua, is going back in time to try to prevent Judge Biggs from becoming evil and, hopefully, to keep Margaret’s father out of prison. Will Margaret be able to save Judge Biggs and her father? Find out in *Saving Lucas Biggs* by Marisa De los Santos and David Teague.

**Reviews:**  
- *Booklist*, 05/01/14  
- *Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books*, 07/01/14  
- *Kirkus Reviews* starred, 03/01/14  
- *School Library Journal* starred, 04/01/14

**Author Website:**  
[www.harpercollins.com/authors/32089](http://www.harpercollins.com/authors/32089)

**Related Books:**  
*The Emerald Atlas* by John Stephens  
*Dreamer, Wisher, Liar* by Charise Mericle Harper  
*A Handful of Time* by Kit Pearson

**Like-Try-Why:**  
If you like *Saving Lucas Biggs* by Marisa De los Santos and David Teague, try *The Emerald Atlas* by John Stephens. Both books deal with time travel and with mysteries surrounding parents.
If you like *Saving Lucas Biggs* by Marisa De los Santos and David Teague, try *Eyes Wide Open: Going Behind the Environmental Headlines* by Paul Fleischman. Both books describe the effects fossil fuel mining has on the environment.

If you like *Saving Lucas Biggs* by Marisa De los Santos and David Teague, try *Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs. Both books have characters who are trying to discover the past in order to understand events in the present.
The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights
By Steve Sheinkin

Citation:

Annotation: After a horrendous explosion killed over 320 soldiers and wounding many more, at the Navy base in Port Chicago, California, Why were fifty African Americans charged with mutiny when refusing to return to work in unsafe conditions loading ammunition on the docks?

Booktalk: What happens the days after a massive explosion at the Port Chicago Naval base on July 17, 1944 shows the inequalities of sailors in the United States during WWII. 50 African Americans were considered mutineers for not following orders to return to loading ammunition on the docks, after 320 men died that fateful July day. Follow how this story changes the course of history and segregation in the armed forces.

Reviews:
- Booklist, 2/1/14
- Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books, 2/1/14
- Horn Book Guide, 10/1/14
- Horn Book Magazine, 3/1/14
- Kirkus Reviews starred, 12/15/13
- Library Media Connection starred, 3/1/14
- Publishers Weekly starred, 11/11/13
- School Library Journal starred, 2/1/14

Awards and Honors:
- Dorothy Canfield Fisher Children’s Book Award Nominee 2016
- Boston Globe-Horn Book Award for Nonfiction 2014
- National Book Award Finalist for Young People’s Literature 2014
- YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults-Nominees, 2015
- Publishers Weekly Best Books of the Year 2014
- Iowa Teen Award Master List

Author Website:
www.stevesheinkin.com
Other Books by Steve Sheinkin:

Which Way to the Wild West?: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn’t Tell you About Westward Expansion
The Adventures of Rabbi Harvey: A Graphic Novel of Jewish Wisdom and Wit in the Wild West
Rabbi Harvey vs. the Wisdom Kid: A Graphic Novel of Jewish Dueling Folktales in the Wild West
Rabbi Harvey Rides Again: A Graphic Novel of Jewish Folktales Let Loose in the Wild West
Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon
Lincoln’s Grave Robbers
The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery
Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War
King George: What Was His Problem?: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn’t Tell You About the American Revolution
Two Miserable Presidents: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn’t Tell You About the Civil War

Related Books:

Courage has no Color: The True Story of the Triple Nickles, America’s First Black Paratroopers by Tanya Lee Stone
Imprisoned: The Betrayal of Japanese Americans during World War II by Martin W. Sandler
The Boys who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club by Phillip M. Hoose

Like - Try - Why:

A Time to Dance
By Padma Venkatraman

Citation:

Annotation: Veda, a traditional bharatanatyam dancer in India, is about to achieve her lifelong dream but suffers a catastrophic accident. Forced to re-evaluate her dream, she must decide what she truly wants and find a way to reach it.

Booktalk: Veda loves to dance. She is determined to be the very best bharatanatyam dancer in all of India. To be the best means she can show her family she can determine her own destiny and choose a life for herself. A horrific accident shortly after Veda wins the national dance competition leaves her with only one leg. Dancing is her only dream. Can she still dance with only one leg? Told in lyrical free verse, A Time to Dance is a story of family, culture, passion and the determination to follow your dreams, even if the path to get there becomes harder than you ever imagined.

Reviews:
- Booklist starred, 04/15/14
- Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books starred, 09/01/14
- Horn Book Guide, 10/01/14
- Horn Book Magazine, 07/01/14
- Kirkus Reviews starred, 04/01/14
- Library Media Connection, 10/01/14
- Publishers Weekly, 03/03/14
- School Library Journal starred, 04/01/14
- Teacher Librarian, 12/01/14
- Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA) starred, 04/01/14

Awards and Honors:
- ALA Notable,
- ALA/YALSA Best Books for Young Adults
- Booklist Editor's Choice
- Booklist Top 10 art books for youth
- Center for the Study of Multicultural Literature Best Book
- International Board on Books for Young People Outstanding Book for Young People with Disabilities
- International Reading Association Notable Book for a Global Society
- Kirkus Best Book of the Year for young adults
- New York Public Library Best Book for the Teen Age
- Indiana Eliot Rosewater High School Book Award Nominee 2016-2017
- Illinois Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Book Award Nominee 2017

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**Like-Try-Why**

Like *A Time to Dance*? Try *The Running Dream* by Wendelin Van Draanen. Why? Both protagonists lose a leg in an accident and must find a new way to realize their dreams.

Like *A Time to Dance*? Try *Shark Girl* by Kelly Bingham. Why? These books are both written in verse about a teenage girl who loses a limb and still follow their dreams.